

**Pre-Disaster Mitigation Program
Indian Tribal Government
FACT SHEET**

What is the Pre-Disaster Mitigation program?

FEMA's Pre-Disaster Mitigation (PDM) program will provide funds to states, territories, Indian tribes, and communities for hazard mitigation planning and the implementation of mitigation projects prior to a disaster event. The PDM program provides a significant opportunity to raise risk awareness and reduces the nation's disaster losses through pre-disaster mitigation planning and the implementation of cost-effective mitigation measures. The PDM program was authorized by Section 203 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Assistance and Emergency Relief Act (Stafford Act), 42 U.S.C. 5133 to assist states and communities to implement a sustained pre-disaster natural hazard mitigation program to reduce overall risk to the population and structures, while also reducing reliance on Federal funding from actual disaster declarations.

Are Indian tribes eligible to apply for the PDM program?

Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments may apply for PDM funds as an Applicant directly to FEMA, or as a Sub-applicant to a state/territory emergency management agency. (This choice is independent of a designation under other FEMA grants and programs.) If a Federally-recognized Indian tribal government acts as an Applicant, and a grant is awarded, the tribal government assumes the full responsibilities of a Grantee for the purposes of administering the grant.

State-recognized Indian tribes, authorized Indian tribal organizations, Alaska Native villages, and Indian tribal colleges and universities may only apply for PDM funds as Sub-applicants to a state/territorial emergency management agency.

How does my Indian tribal government apply for the PDM program?

Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments applying as Applicants directly to FEMA MUST use the electronic grants (eGrants) management system:

<https://portal.fema.gov> to submit a PDM grant application to include planning, project, and management cost sub-applications to FEMA by the application deadline. The tribal Applicant should create planning, project, and technical assistance/management costs sub-applications under the "Grant Applicant Acting As Subgrant Applicant" section of the Grantee Homepage in eGrants. Then the tribal Applicant must create a PDM grant application in eGrants using the "Create New Grant Application" link in eGrants and attach approved planning, project, and technical assistance/management costs sub-applications to it for submittal to FEMA. The tribal Applicant must give each sub-application attached to their PDM grant application a unique rank. (The Applicant's priority ranking of sub-applications is the highest weighted factor in the National Ranking.)

Indian tribes applying as Sub-applicants to a state/territorial emergency management agency must submit planning/project sub-application(s) to their state/territory for consideration for the state/territory's PDM grant application. Sub-applicants should consult the State Hazard Mitigation Officer for their state/territory for more information regarding the application process.

How does my Indian tribal government access FEMA's electronic grants system?

Because FEMA's electronic grants (eGrants) management system is web-based, you must have Internet access and e-mail service. You must register to become an eGrants user.

Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments applying as Applicants directly to FEMA should contact the PDM Coordinator in your FEMA Regional Office to request a tribal Applicant access code for eGrants registration. Indian tribal governments may also request a tribal Sub-applicant access code to provide to any tribal sub-organizations within the Indian tribe for eGrants registration.

Indian tribes applying as Sub-applicants to a state/territorial emergency management agency should contact the State Hazard Mitigation Officer in the relevant state to request a Sub-applicant access code for eGrants.

After receiving an eGrants access code, the tribe should go to the eGrants website: <https://portal.fema.gov>, click on the "Mitigation Grants" link, and then the "New User?" link in the Login box to register as a new user. Once the registration is submitted, the entity that provided the eGrants access code must approve the registration. A confirmation e-mail will be received once registration is approved. Approved tribal Applicants can approve tribal Sub-applicant registrations using the "Administration" link on the Grantee Homepage and then clicking on "Pending User Registrations."

In addition to the online help available within the eGrants system and the Grant Applicant and Sub-grant Applicant Quick Reference Guides available on the eGrants Mitigation Grants page, FEMA has established an eGrants Helpdesk to provide technical assistance to Applicants and Sub-applicants completing sub-applications and grant applications in the eGrants system. The eGrants Helpdesk can be reached via telephone: 1-866-476-0544 or e-mail: mtegrants@dhs.gov. Standard hours of operation are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time. Hours may be extended during the application period.

What are the National Flood Insurance Program participation requirements for Indian Tribes?

Indian tribes that have been identified through the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) as having a Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA), and a Flood Hazard Boundary Map (FHBM) or Flood Insurance Rate Map (FIRM) has been issued for their tribal lands and/or reservations, **MUST** be participating in the NFIP and not on probation, suspended, or withdrawn from the NFIP to be eligible for the PDM program. Indian tribes that have been identified through the NFIP will have a Community Identification (CID) number assigned to them by FEMA. Please reference FEMA's Community Status Book: www.fema.gov/fema/csb.shtm to determine whether a CID number has been assigned for your tribe.

Indian Tribes that have **not** been mapped or have **not** been officially notified by FEMA that SFHAs exist on their tribal lands and/or reservations are eligible for the PDM program.

What are the mitigation planning requirements for Indian Tribes?

Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments applying as Applicants directly to FEMA must have a FEMA-approved Tribal Standard or Enhanced Mitigation Plan by the

last date of PDM National Evaluation to be eligible to receive project grant funding under the PDM program in accordance with 44 CFR Part 201.

Indian tribes applying as Sub-applicants to a state/territorial emergency management agency must have a FEMA-approved tribal local mitigation plan by the last date of PDM National Evaluation in order to receive project sub-grant funding. PDM planning grants will continue to be made available to Indian tribes to enable them to meet the planning requirements. Please see FEMA's planning web page: <http://www.fema.gov/fima/planning.shtm>.

What are the Environmental/Historic Preservation Review requirements?

Responses to the Environmental/Historic Preservation questions in the project sub-application and submission of the supporting documentation are required for all mitigation projects. FEMA will conduct the environmental and historic preservation reviews after the National Evaluation process is complete and FEMA has selected applications for further review. The Tribal Historic Preservation Officer can address environmental and historic preservation requirements.

What is the cost share requirement for PDM grants?

FEMA will contribute up to 75 percent of the total amount approved under the grant award to implement approved activities. At least 25 percent of the total eligible costs must be provided from a non-Federal source. Funding is restricted to a maximum of \$3 million Federal share per each project sub-application and \$1 million Federal share per each planning sub-application.

Grants awarded to "small, impoverished communities" may receive a Federal cost share of up to 90 percent of the total amount approved under the grant award. Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments applying as Applicants directly to FEMA will determine if they meet the definition of a small, impoverished community as provided in the PDM Guidance. For Indian tribes applying as Sub-applicants to a state/territorial emergency management agency, the state/territory will make this determination.

Can an Indian Tribal government apply for management costs?

Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments applying as Applicants directly to FEMA may apply for up to 10 percent of the total funds requested. Applicants **MUST** request management costs using a separate Technical Assistance/management cost sub-application.

Indian tribes applying as Sub-applicants to a state/territorial emergency management agency may apply for up to 5 percent of the total of the planning/project sub-application.

Is there technical assistance available for application development?

In addition to the application development assistance resources provided on the PDM webpage: <http://www.fema.gov/fima/pdm.shtm>, FEMA has established Technical Assistance Helplines to provide assistance to Applicants and Sub-applicants with engineering feasibility and effectiveness; cost effectiveness, including Benefit-Cost Analysis (BCA) software (updated as of December 2004), technical manuals, and other BCA references; and Environmental/Historic Preservation compliance for project sub-

applications. The Helplines can be reached via phone: 1-866-222-3580 or e-mail: enghelpline@dhs.gov; bchelpline@dhs.gov; and ehhelpline@dhs.gov, respectively, and guarantee a 48-hour response time.

Where can I get more information about the PDM Program?

Information on the PDM program can be found at <http://www.fema.gov/fima/pdm.shtm>. This PDM web page provides an overview of the program and links to program details. Federally-recognized Indian tribal governments applying as Applicants directly to FEMA should contact the PDM Coordinator or Tribal Liaison in your FEMA Regional Office for additional information. Indian tribes applying as Sub-applicants to a state/territorial emergency management agency should contact the State Hazard Mitigation Officer in the relevant state/territory's emergency management agency for additional information.